

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 15, 2010

**ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT APPOINTS COOK COUNTY
ASSOCIATE JUDGE DARRYL SIMKO TO RULES COMMITTEE**

The Supreme Court of Illinois announced on Friday the appointment of Cook County Associate Judge Darryl B. Simko to the Court's Rules Committee. His appointment was recommended by Illinois Supreme Court Justice Charles E. Freeman.

The Rules Committee studies and recommends new Supreme Court rules or modifications to existing rules. Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas L. Kilbride serves as liaison to the Committee.

Judge Simko was appointed an associate judge in 2005, and has been hearing cases in the Chancery Division since 2006. He was appointed a Cook County circuit judge in 2001. Prior to his tenure on the bench, he served as senior assistant attorney general, civil appeals bureau in the Illinois Attorney General's office. Judge Simko also served as assistant attorney general in the criminal appeals bureau.

A 1982 *cum laude* graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a B.B.A. degree, Judge Simko received his *juris doctor* degree in 1985 from Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Upon graduation from law school, Judge Simko clerked for Cook County Circuit Judge Anthony Scottillo. He subsequently clerked for Illinois Appellate Judges Francis S. Lorenz and John M. O'Connor, Jr.; and for Justice Freeman.

Since 2006, Judge Simko has served as co-chair of the Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Education DUI/Traffic Benchbook. He also served on the Supreme Court Committee to Study Rule 23, the Committee on Character and Fitness, and the Judicial Performance Evaluation Committee.

The appointment of Judge Simko was made to fill the upcoming Committee vacancy by Cook County Circuit Judge Sophia H. Hall who is not eligible for reappointment. Judge Simko's appointment is effective January 1, 2011 and will terminate on December 31, 2013.

The Supreme Court also announced the reappointment of the following members to the Rules Committee effective January 1, 2011: Illinois Appellate Court Judge Patrick J. Quinn; Chicago attorneys James R. Figliuolo and Martin Leavitt; Quincy attorney Brett K. Gorman; and Mt. Vernon attorney Jerome E. McDonald. Southern Illinois University School of Law Professor Keith H. Beyler was also reappointed Reporter of the Committee.

MORE

Judge Simko appointed to Rules Committee

Add One

Other members of the Rules Committee include: Illinois Appellate Court Judge Mary K. O'Brien; Cook County Judge Margaret Stanton McBride; Naperville attorney Robert G. Gibson; Chicago attorneys Daniel S. Kirschner, Nicholas J. Motherway and Rudolf G. Schade, Jr.; Peoria attorney John P. Nicoara; Alton attorney Alphonse J. Pranaitis; Urbana attorney Edward M. Wagner; and Wheaton attorney Edward J. Walsh, Jr.

Chicago attorney John B. Simon serves as chair of the Rules Committee.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.2323)